

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-26. By this paper, claims 1, 6, 8, 10, 16, 18, and 23-26 are amended, and claims 5, 9, and 17 are canceled. No new matter has been added. Upon entry of the amendments, claims 1-4, 6-8, 10-16, and 18-26 will remain pending in the present application. All are believed to be in condition for allowance. In view of the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 5-7, 9, 10, 17, and 18 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but stated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. See Office Action, page 11, paragraph 12-13. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of these claims. Although Applicants do not necessarily believe that the Examiner's rejections were proper, Applicants have chosen to amend the claims in order to place the application in condition for allowance, as discussed below.

Independent Claims 1, 8, and 16

As stated in the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 5, 9, and 17 contained allowable subject matter. As such, allowable subject matter from claim 5 has been incorporated into independent claim 1, allowable subject matter from claim 9 has been incorporated into independent claim 8, and allowable subject matter from claim 17 has been incorporated into independent claim 16. Accordingly, claims 5, 9, and 17 are canceled, and allowable dependent claims 6, 10, and 18 amended to recite proper dependency from appropriate parent claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claims 1, 8, and 16, as well as those claims dependent therefrom, are presently in condition for allowance.

Independent Claims 23-26

With regard to the claim amendments discussed above, independent claims 23 and 25 are similarly amended to incorporate allowable subject matter from claim 5, and independent claims 24 and 26 are similarly amended to incorporate allowable subject matter from claim 9. Specifically, independent claims 23 and 25, as amended, recite, *inter alia*, shrinking an input image based upon the shrink parameter, wherein the shrink parameter is a ratio of the pixel sampling rate to the desired sampling rate when a redundancy metric is below a predetermined threshold, and independent claims 24 and 26, as amended, recite, *inter alia*, processing image data by shrinking the image defined by the image data by a shrink parameter based upon the redundancy metric. Thus, Applicants believe independent claims 23-26, as amended, are presently in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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